

Message Text

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67

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 /089 W
----- 068268

R 051355Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7621
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, EG, LE

SUBJ: COMMENTS BY SOVIET DIPLOMAT ON LEBANESE SITUATION

REF CAIRO 13437 (NOTAL),

1. SOVIET EMB FIRST SEC KOLESNIKOV OCT 4 COMMENTED TO
EMBOFF THAT MOSCOW NOT AT ALL ENTHUSIASTIC CONCERNING SPEC-
ULATION IN WORLD PRESS THAT FRANCE TRYING TO ARRANGE ROUND-
TABLE DICUSSION IN PARIS O LEBANESE SITUATON. KOLESNIKOV
POINTED OUT THAT SOVIETS BELIEVE THAT ANY CONFERENCE ON
LEBANON SHOULD BE HELD IN LEBANON (PREFERABLY BEIRUT) AND
SHOULD, AS FIRST STAGE, INCLUDE ONLY LEBANESE PARTIES INVOLVED
IN DISPUTE. AFTER LEBANESE PARTIES MADE PROGRESS TOWARD
RESOLUTION OF THEIR DIFFERENCES, CONFERENCE COULD BE OPENED
UP TO INCLUDE BOTH PLO AND SARG.

2. COMMENT: EGYPTIANS APPEAR TO BE DOWNPLAYING THEIR NEW-
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FOUND FRENCH CONNECTION AND PROPOSALS FOR PARIS CONFERENCE

TREATED IN LOW KEY MANNER IN OCT 5 DAILIES. REJECTION OF
PARIS CONFERENCE BY CHAMOUN AND RESERVATIONS EXPRESSED BY
GEMAYEL DUTIFULLY REPORTED IN CAIRO PRESS. FRENCH EMB COUNSELOR
LUCET REITERATED OCT 4 HIS COUNTRY'S UNWILLINGNESS TO BE-
COME INVOLVED IN LEBANON UNLESS ALL PARTIES TO DISPUTE SO WISHED.
GIVEN SOVIET DOUBTS, FRENCH RELUCTANCE, SYRIAN SILENCE
AND LEBANESE/CHRISTIAN CONDEMNATION, IT APPEARS THAT FRENCH-
EGYPTIAN "INITIATIVE" ON LEBANON MAY ALREADY HAVE RUN OUT OF
STEAM.
EILTS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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